



PATENT
03825-P0007A GSW/DC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Applicants: | Columbia Insurance Company |
| Serial No. 09/686,546 | Filing Date: November 11, 2000 |
| Title of Application: | INSTEP PROTECTOR |
| Group Art Unit: 3728 | Examiner: Anthony D. Stashick |

11/B
Jee
E. J. J.
7/26/02

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

**Preliminary Amendment Accompanying a Request
for a Continuation Prosecution Application**

In response to the Final Office Action mailed May 20, 2002, Applicant submits
the following Amendments and Remarks.

In the Claims:

Marked Up Version to Show Changes Made

Please replace claim 1 with the following amended claim 1:

1. (Twice Amended) Footwear for protecting a foot consisting essentially of
[comprising]:

[an upper defining an opening, the upper including:]

a vamp of an upper extending from a toe region to an instep region and
consisting of a single unit [having a proximal and a distal region];

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Certificate of Mailing: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the
U.S. Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for
Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

July 16, 2002

Lori J. Gluffrida